

BISHOP AT WORK

ON HIS DUTIES ALTHOUGH NOT CONFIRMED

The Senate Might Cause President Roosevelt Some Embarrassment on the Panama Canal Commission Plans.

Washington, Dec. 22.—Pending definite action by the senate committee on inter-oceanic canals on the Isthmus canal commissions confirmation, Joseph H. Bishop has assumed the duties of his new office as one of the canal commissioners. If the senate does not approve Mr. Bishop's nomination when it comes up for confirmation it may cause the president much embarrassment. As it stands Mr. Bishop is now being classed as the majority member of the commission. His vote may decide many important questions that will likely come up in canal affairs since Chief Engineer Stevens is here to consult with the commission and President Roosevelt as to what kind of a canal should be built. It is understood that such a question will be decided shortly.

The inter-oceanic canal commission of the senate has not had a meeting since it was announced last Monday. Many of the members are away for the holidays, consequently everything is at sea as to how the feeling in that committee stands regarding Mr. Bishop's nomination. It is said his nomination will be confirmed but that there is to be a fight is openly admitted.

HUNDREDS DROWN IN GREAT FLOOD

El Paso, Texas, Dec. 22.—Hundreds of persons have been drowned according to reports which reached this city today from the Sinaloa district of Mexico, where several towns and villages have been wiped out by the sudden overflow of the Fuerti river.

Every dispatch from the flooded district augments the estimates of fatalities. Thousands of families are homeless and the river banks are strewn with corpses. The lower gorges of the river are choked with the debris of ruined homes.

The flood was caused by heavy rains in the mountains.

Relief parties are organizing in all directions. The river has overflowed a wide tract of territory and railroad tracks are washed away and telegraph wires are down. The flooded district is therefore isolated and the full extent of the calamity is not yet known.

Terrible stories of death and suffering reached the Texas river cities today. These said that the Mexican government would take steps at once toward assisting the relief expeditions.

The rush of the torrent swept through the Fuerti valley leaving death and destruction in its wake. So sudden was the onrush of the flood that no attempt at escape was possible on the part of the victims.

Many Americans are said to have perished among the hundreds swept to death.

SERVICE PENSION

Favored by Tanner for All Civil War Survivors, and Also for Widows.

Cincinnati, O., Dec. 22.—Corporal James Tanner, commander-in-chief of the G. A. R. has declared himself in favor of a full service pension for all survivors of the civil war and the widows of survivors now drawing pensions.

He will hold a conference with President Roosevelt in the near future to discuss a bill for this purpose, which is to be introduced in congress.

He says the pensions lists will be increased \$33,000,000 by such law. "Yet," said the commander-in-chief, "the decrease of pensioners by death is so rapid that within 24 months the increase in the total appropriation would be wholly absorbed."

The last report of the commissioner of pensions for the year ending June last shows that during the year 43,855 pensioners died.

This rate next year will be still larger, and so on each succeeding year."

CHILDREN DIE

In the Flames and Parents May Be Fatally Injured.

Muncie, Ind., Dec. 22.—Clara and Mildred Beggs, 7 and 8 years old respectively, of Royerton, were burned to death early today. Mr. and Mrs. Beggs were so seriously injured that one and perhaps both of them may die. The family had been living in a tent which caught fire from a gas stove.

Two Killed in Wreck. Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 22.—A serious wreck occurred on the Reading railroad this morning resulting in the death of two train hands and the injury of two others.

Carnation Sells for \$40,000. Cincinnati, O., Dec. 22.—"Aristocrat," the most aristocratic of all carnations, was sold today by Richard Witherstatter to the Chicago Carnation association of Joliet, Ill. The price is said to have been \$40,000.

Fifteen Raised to Priesthood. Baltimore, Md., Dec. 22.—The annual Christmas ordinations took place at the Cathedral this morning. Cardinal Gibbons officiated. Fifteen young men were raised to the priesthood and 19 were made deacons.

DRAGOONS KILLED

Copenhagen, Dec. 23.—News received here from Riga states that 2,000 insurgents engaged in pillaging and burning estates in Takum were attacked by 100 dragoons. A fierce engagement followed, no quarter being asked or given. All the dragoons were killed and 800 insurgents were left dead on the field. A Siberian army corps has been ordered to march to the scene of the disorders with instruction to act with the utmost sternness.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 23.—It was finally decided yesterday to grant universal suffrage.

SOMEWHAT DEPRESSED

By the Failure of Workmen to Go Out on Strike in Large Numbers.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 23.—Although the strike is spreading in this city and its vicinity, still the progress made has not been as rapid as that in Moscow. This has partly restored the confidence of the government, while the revolutionaries are somewhat depressed by the failure of the workmen to go out on strike in large numbers. The revolutionaries have also been checked in their demonstrations by the arrest of several of their leaders, but they are, on the whole, confident of the ultimate success of the strike.

Several manufacturers have openly expressed their sympathy with the strikers, supplying them with money and weapons with which to continue their strike.

THE CZAR WARNED

To Leave Russia and He is Heavily Guarded—Displeased at Witte.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 23.—There is a persistent rumor in circulation here, a well known revolutionary leader being the authority for the same, that the czar has been warned to leave Russia. This communication was sent to the ruler in three different ways in order to guarantee its reaching him. The czar was notified that the limit of patience had been exhausted and that he had ceased to be ruler of Russia save in name only. The czar was advised for his own sake, as well as for his family's to leave the country forthwith.

The emperor, who has been unnerved over the events of the past few weeks had looked to Count Witte as the one man able to keep the people loyal. Now that Witte has failed to prevent the strike the czar is inclined to blame him for the present crisis.

A stormy scene, it is stated, occurred when the premier replied to the czar:

"Your majesty, I cannot save the dynasty. I am afraid I cannot save the people."

The czar is also greatly influenced by the grand dukes, especially Vladimir, who is said to demand a stronger reaction policy.

FIVE DAYS

Given to Accede to Their Demands. Failure Means Armed Uprising.

Moscow, Dec. 23.—The Central Workmen's union has given the government five days in which to accede to their demands.

If these demands are not granted by Monday next an armed uprising will follow. The fighting has continued in the suburbs today.

The Cossacks arrested 400 workmen suspected of erecting the barricades. Premier Witte publicly challenged the revolutionaries. He has given orders to the troops to spare no ammunition in quelling rebellious workmen caught or suspected of placing rails across railroad tracks for the purpose of preventing soldiers in their efforts to move trains.

This city is now guarded by 56,000 troops, with 58 maxims guns. Latest news reports the Baltics as totally lost to Russian rule. Officers and men to the number of 1,500 have been imprisoned.

BELMONT BUYS

From Ryan the Control of the New York Metropolitan Railroad.

New York, Dec. 22.—August Belmont has purchased from Thomas F. Ryan control of the Metropolitan Street Railway company.

This means a combination of the street railway system of Manhattan and the Bronx.

Such a combination means the placing under one management of traction companies whose capital stock and bonded indebtedness exceeds \$436,000,000.

Mr. Ryan's associates confirmed the report of the merger.

POMERENE CALLS

At Columbus, Not for a Job for Himself, But Urging For Stark County Men.

Columbus, O., Dec. 22.—Among the callers Thursday at the Democratic headquarters was Altee Pomerene, who was the candidate for senator in the twenty-first district. Mr. Pomerene was seeking nothing for himself, but called to urge the claims of two candidates from his county, Stark, Ed. Shimp of Alliance, who wants to be railroad commissioner and Mayor Bernard Bell of Massillon, who is seeking the office of state labor commissioner.

Found Murdered.

Cincinnati, O., Dec. 22.—George Beluche a Sicilian cobbler, was found murdered in his little shanty this morning. His throat was cut from ear to ear.

ODELL DOOMED

WORE A FROWN UPON FAILURE TO MUSTER COHORTS

Defeat in New York County Organization is Followed by Further Defeat and Disappointment.

New York, Dec. 22.—The defeat of the Odell men in last night's meeting of the New York county Republican organization, when Herbert Parsons and his associates were elected to the control of the committee was followed today by another disappointment for the former governor. Mr. Odell had expected to muster enough followers at the caucus of Republican assemblymen, called to meet at the Cadillac hotel, to throw a damper on the opposition, but when less than 30 assemblymen put in an appearance, in answer to the caucus call of Chairman Phillips, Mr. Odell wore a noticeable frown, when the news first reached him. However, he regained his customary good nature but gave out no further statements.

Candidate Wadsworth's attitude in refusing an invitation of Assemblyman Rogers and several of his colleagues to attend the caucus was given as an indication that Mr. Wadsworth was aware, at the time of the committee's visit that there would be but few responses to the call for the caucus.

Failing to get a sufficient number of assemblymen together for a caucus an adjournment was taken subject to the call of the chairman.

Assemblyman Merritt stated today that he would be in the race for the speakership to the finish.

"Mr. Odell is a fighter," said he, "and when it comes to a question of backing up his arguments he will be found in to the finish."

SUPREME COURT

RENDERS IMPORTANT DECISION IN CRIMINAL CASES

Canal Commission Reports That the State Has Valid Claims Against the Government—Sunday Question in Cincinnati.

Columbus, O., Dec. 22.—The supreme court has decided that the state has the right to a change of venue in criminal cases.

Guilbert Not Out Yet.

Columbus, O., Dec. 22.—Physicians say that Auditor of State Guilbert will not be able to be out for two weeks yet.

State Has Valid Claim.

Columbus, O., Dec. 22.—The state canal commission in its report says that the state has a valid claim for twenty thousand acres of swamp land and a cash indemnity against the government.

May Vote on Sunday Question.

Cincinnati, O., Dec. 22.—Bills are being framed here to make Sunday closing local option. A certain percentage of the voters may call for an election to decide whether the saloons, theatres, baseball grounds, etc., shall be open Sunday.

Was Forced to Solicit Votes.

Toledo, O., Dec. 22.—John Anelik, the deposed sanitary policeman says he was forced to remove his uniform and solicit votes for the Republicans hence he had to neglect his duties.

Takes Canton Position.

Sandusky, O., Dec. 22.—Assistant City Engineer Paul Rebillot has resigned to take a position with the engineering department of the Wabash railway at Canton.

Santa Claus Caught Fire.

Marysville, O., Dec. 22.—Harold Ogle, a high school student at Plain City, while playing Santa Claus was badly burned, his whiskers catching fire. Running about the stage he created a panic.

May Be Lynched.

Bowling Green, O., Dec. 22.—It developed today that Sam Purjee and Lewis Durem broke down the door and beat Joseph Luce and wife. Both are unconscious. Warrants are out for their arrest. They may be lynched if caught. The assault resulted over the testimony given by Luce in court against the assailants.

FOUR MORE ARRESTS

Made in the Murder of Homer Loar at Newark.

Newark, O., Dec. 22.—Four more arrests were made today in connection with the murder of Homer Loar, the non-union polisher, who was killed while going to work at the Wehde's stove foundry last night. Those now under arrest are:

Richard Oden, F. A. Gobel, Hugh Taylor, Andrew H. Letter and William Beekford. The latter was arrested late last night. There were seven in the party of which Loar was a member. They were ambushed on a lonely path across a vacant lot from the foundry. Without warning the assailants opened fire. Loar fell at the first shot. Hugh Taylor was identified by one of Loar's companions as one of the alleged assailants.

Stogies Advance in Price.

Wheeling, W. Va., Dec. 22.—All the stogie manufacturers in the wheeling district, with one exception, have made an average advance in the price of stogies of 50 cents per 1,000. In some cases the advance is as much as \$1 a thousand, and is due to the increased cost of seed tobacco.

QUEER DEALS

IN THE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT BROUGHT OUT

Chief Examiner Vanderpool on the Stand Admits Serious Neglect of Duty in His Department.

New York, Dec. 22.—The testimony of Isaac Vanderpool, chief examiner in the state insurance department, given before the legislative insurance investigation today was received with some surprise and was afterward the cause of much comment. Mr. Vanderpool's testimony led to the opinion that some one in the state insurance department was lax.

Mr. Vanderpool in answer to Inquisitor Hughes declared that he had known for a year that the Mutual Life Insurance company had transferred profits of securities to reduce the book value of its real estate, but that he did not consider it necessary to inform the superintendent. He said that this had been the practice of both the Mutual and the New York Life, but that it was not customary in other companies so far as he was aware.

The witness declared in every instance that he had confined himself to the statements of the books, and that despite the facts that lawsuits were in progress and charges had been lodged by discharged employees of the insurance company, these matters had not been given any attention by him.

Mr. Vanderpool then temporarily left the stand in order that Charles S. Gretsinger, assistant auditor of the Mutual might produce the memoranda signed by President McCurdy and Vice President Granis, directing the shifting of money from the securities profits account to the reduction of the book value of real estate.

There were some ten or twelve of these documents including one dated June 30, 1905, and signed by Richard A. McCurdy, directing the auditor to make the \$5,000,000 shift previously brought out in the testimony.

Before the investigating committee opened its session today, Lou F. Payne former superintendent of insurance entered the room and held a short conversation with Chairman Armstrong of the committee. It was afterward rumored that Mr. Payne would be the star witness before the committee for next week.

NEW MINING SCALE

Agreed to Between the Sterling Mining Company and its Employees.

Silverville, Dec. 23.—Percy Teltow, of Washingtonville, president of this sub-district of United Mine Workers, was called here this week to consult in regard to a new mining scale to be adopted when the Sterling mine installs its new electric motor in the mine. The motor will be the means of doing away with the mine mule and several drivers will be thrown out of work.

The miners are insisting that a new scale must be made, as the conditions will be somewhat changed, and the mining company must accede to their demands under the agreement made two years ago, and which will expire April 1, 1906. The company wanted to wait until the expiration of the agreement but the local union insisted on an agreement to take effect when the motor was installed.

The conference between the parties was harmonious and they were able to get together with a draft of the terms of agreement, which will be ratified by the district officials at an early date. The company has a good contract and has orders to keep it busy all winter, insuring work for the men until summer time.

WILL NOT SUE

Mrs. Corey Has Accepted \$1,000,000, According to Reports.

Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 22.—According to persons in a position to know, Mrs. William E. Corey will not sue for divorce. It is declared she has accepted an offer of \$1,000,000 from her husband and the assurance of his father that the friendship between him and Miss Mabelle Gilman, the actress, has been broken and will not be repaired. A pledge that he will make his son his sole heir is also said to have been given.

NEARLY FROZEN

Aged Father of Rev. Alten Wanders Away and Is Out All Night.

Navarre, O., Dec. 22.—Considerable excitement prevailed in Navarre on Thursday night by the disappearance of the father of Rev. Joseph Alten. Mr. Alten is 83 years old, and wandered away from home about 4:30 o'clock. A searching party was out all night but was unable to find him. He was found by one of the men Friday morning in a field on the Massillon plains, and was very nearly frozen.

WOMAN MUST PAY

Alimony to Her Husband Is the Verdict of a Michigan Court.

Flint, Mich., Dec. 22.—What is believed to be a case unique in the annals of Michigan courts of justice occurred here this morning when Justice Halsey ordered Mattie Gilmore to pay \$3 a week toward the support of her husband and child.

Mrs. Gilmore was ruled to be the head of the family as her husband Homer Gilmore, is blind and has been able to earn but little money, peddling junk.

HE LOVED BOTH

BUT AT THE SAME TIME AND ENDS LIFE AS A RESULT

Tells of a Condition Which He Thinks Is More to Be Pity Than Censured.

Norfolk, Va., Dec. 23.—Leaving a letter confessing that he was the husband of two wives, one with two children at his home here in Norfolk and the other a bride of 17 days in Atlanta, Ga., J. B. Gibbons, a traveling salesman, 37 years old, took his life with a pistol in his home here, shortly before 8 o'clock this morning. He declared affection for both wives.

Gibbons was in a railroad accident several years ago, which caused him to spend several months in a hospital here. A bad wound received in the accident had never healed.

After telling of his mental and physical suffering, in a letter and praying that his wife and children here may be taken care of, Gibbons says:

"I met a beautiful and attractive young woman who recently became infatuated with me and imparted that truth and to save me I could not refrain from reciprocating, yet loving my family. I tried to obviate the present existing conditions, but her beauty, culture and refinement was irresistible to me and we were married Dec. 4 at Valdosta, Ga., and she is now at the Kimball house, as my wife, awaiting my return.

"For this consummation of events, I am to be pitied, rather than censured as the frailty of human nature is here expressed. The lady is deserving of the best the world can give, because of angelic nature, sweet character and innocence personified. Some one will kindly impart this news to her gently and request her to shed no tears of sorrow, but bask in the eternal hope for a higher future and remember I love her still."

When the news was telegraphed to Atlanta today, Mrs. Gibbons No. 2 was reported to be out shopping.

SCORED BY JUDGE

WAS THE REV. H. S. WANAMAKER AT ELYRIA

In Giving the Faithful Wife a Divorce He Recited Some of the Inhuman Acts of the Husband.

Elyria, O., Dec. 22.—Mrs. Mary Wanamaker was today divorced from Rev. H. S. Wanamaker, the former pastor of the Second Congregational church, and will receive \$30 a month alimony, the deed to a house in Frankfort, Mich., and the custody of the children.

In reviewing the case Judge Washburn said Mrs. Wanamaker had been a faithful and patient wife.

"He compelled his frail wife, who was worn out with the cares of his family, to get down upon her knees with him and join in prayer that she should die," he said.

"When the last child was about to be born, she called his attention to the fact that no preparation had been made for a physician or a nurse, and that with the large family there was no place at home where she could be treated. Instead of providing for her, he told her that the Lord would provide for her."

"A kind neighbor, Mrs. Livagood took her in and telephoned for a nurse and doctor. While she was in a bad condition her husband came to her and said that he was satisfied that her time to die had come and that the Lord would take her during this sickness."

WOULD CLEAR POWERS

Patient in California Has Made a Confession, It is Stated.

Bakersfield, Cal., Dec. 22.—C. E. Ehler, a patient in the county hospital suffering from a wound supposed to have been self-inflicted in a mysterious shooting on Dec. 7, admitted to the superintendent of the hospital today that he has information which will clear Caleb Powers of the charge of murdering Governor Goebel.

The Kentucky authorities have been notified of Ehler's confession and will investigate the case, dispatches received here say.

Powers has been sentenced to death for the murder and a fight is being made before the U. S. supreme court to save him.

THE CORPSE WOKE UP

Body Was Prepared for the Casket When the Supposed Dead Came to Life.

Menominee, Mich., Dec. 22.—Nicholas Jerue of Cedar River was thought to have died and all preparations were made today for the funeral. The grave was dug and the body was about to be placed in the coffin when the man began to revive, after lying in a trance for six hours. The funeral arrangements were utilized to bury a Scandinavian who had just been drowned.

Panic in Fire.

Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 22.—Fire broke out in the big works of the Christopher Bailey company this afternoon and caused a panic among the 100 or more girls employed in the establishment.

Brewery Sold at Auction. Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 22.—The Imperial Brewing Company's plant was bought at auction today by the Breweries merger. The price paid was \$99,000. The plant originally cost \$800,000.

MRS. TAG LOSES

JUDGE EASON OVERRULES MOTION FOR NEW TRIAL

Also Fined Her Attorneys for Contempt and Defends His Decision. Was Convinced by the Evidence.

Wooster, O., Dec. 22.—Judge Samuel B. Eason today overruled the motion of Mrs. Grace Culver Taggart's attorneys for a new trial of the divorce case in which she was defendant and fined three of her counsel for contempt of court, later suspending the same pending his search for authority to impose such punishment.

"In these affidavits, I am scorned and maligned, as no other judge ever was scorned and maligned before in this country," said Judge Eason. "But I am resolved to let no personal feeling come between me and the rendering of absolute justice. The punishment of those whose names are attached to these affidavits, I deem to be sufficient in that fact alone, that their names are attached to such documents is a lasting disgrace to them."

The three attorneys fined for contempt are Congressman M. L. Smyser, K. G. Critchfield and Captain James B. Taylor, two of whom made affidavits which reflect seriously on the court. They were fined \$15 each.

Judge Eason re-arraigned Mrs. Taggart and her associations with Fortague and Billy Taggart. He said he could in no way arrive at any decision or other conclusions than those which existed in his mind when he decided the divorce suit, and that he would not open up the case again, simply to gratify the attorneys who had been disappointed.

THE FINAL PLANS

ARE BEING MADE FOR STANDARD OIL INQUIRY

It is Believed That Recent Conferences of Government Officials Have Been For That End.

Washington, Dec. 22.—It is believed that the government is making its final preparations to begin suit against the Standard Oil company. The recent mysterious trip here of Joseph D. Keating, United States district attorney for Indiana and his long conference with department of justice, in connection with reports and developments lately have added unofficial corroboration to the strong belief.

Mr. Keating spent two days in conference with the department concerning the purpose of which both he and the department have been absolutely uncommunicative. It is known that the business concerned some matter of the first importance and that nothing will be officially known about it until a formal statement is made on the subject, which is expected before long.

Several other district attorneys from middle western districts have lately visited Washington on missions of great mystery. It is known that Commissioner of Corporations Garfield has been present at some of these conferences and this fact is pointed to as one of the substantial reasons for the belief that the business in hand relates to the Standard Oil. Mr. Garfield had been for almost a year engaged in an investigation of the Standard Oil company, its operations and methods.

Recently these inquiries have been confined to the questions of rebates and discriminations.

There is a hint that when action is ordered suits will be begun simultaneously in a number of states.

BRIDGE DEALS

MAY BE INVESTIGATED BY ASSEMBLY

In Addition Several Other Alleged Matters Are to Be Taken Up, According to Reports.

Columbus, O., Dec. 24.—The next general assembly bids fair to go down into history as the "investigating legislature."

The latest rumored probing will affect the bridge combine, which is said to have extorted several million dollars from various counties of the state by illegal contracts and other trust methods. George W. Bope, law associate of F. S. Monnet, who is warring upon the bridge combine's methods, stated Saturday morning that a member of the legislature from either Hamilton or Cuyahoga county would introduce a bill to investigate the bridge trust.

In addition to this inquiry it is practically certain that the alleged municipal rottenness of Cincinnati will be probed and other contemplated bills include investigation of insurance in Ohio, various state departments, some of the state institutions with particular reference to the Imbecile asylum.

500 KILLED DAILY

Constantinople, Dec. 23.—The Turkish consul at Batoum reports that 500 Tartars are massacred by Armenians in that district daily. The consul alleges that the Armenians are supplied with their arms by Russian police agents.